



## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY



# Press Release

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## Ag & Forestry Emergency Personnel Respond to Historic Flooding

**Baton Rouge, LA (August 14, 2016)** – Today, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Commissioner Mike Strain and State Forester Wade Dubea delivered 50 pet crates to a shelter location in Lafayette accepting animals. The LDAF also provided 100 pet crates to Celtic Studios in Baton Rouge which is serving as a shelter.

“We work closely with our partners such as the Louisiana State Animal Response Team (LSART) and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to ensure that anyone who evacuates to a shelter that accepts pets has the accommodations needed. For many people, their pets are like family and they don’t want to evacuate without them. We do not want anyone putting themselves in harm’s way because they can’t leave their pet behind,” said LDAF Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M.

Additional actions taken by LDAF:

- Emergency fuel operations activated to support lifesaving and emergency support missions.
- The food distribution division is on standby for mass feeding support.
- A shelter team out of Alexandria is in Baton Rouge to assist with pet sheltering operations.
- For livestock owners, an equine evacuation site is available at the Lamar Expo Center in Gonzales.

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